Remarks

The Office Action mailed August 22, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-16 are now pending in this application. Claims 9-16 are allowed. Claims 1-8 are rejected. Claims 1, 6, 9, and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a two-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated August 22, 2005 for the above-identified patent application from November 22, 2005 through and including January 23, 2006. January 22, 2006 is a Sunday. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of $450.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

The objections to Claims 1, 3, and 9 is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 has been amended and Claim 3 depends indirectly from independent Claim 1. Moreover, Claim 9 has been amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to Claims 1, 3, and 9 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fujishige et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,507,642) is respectfully traversed.

Fujishige et al. describe a system including an error detecting section (101). An error of an impingement position of an X-ray beam (400) in a k-direction is detected by the error detecting section (column 11, lines 7-9). The error detecting section detects the impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels (25) of two rows in a detector array (24) (column 11, lines 9-12). The error detection is performed by using X-ray detected signals A and B of the X-ray beam from the reference channels of the two rows to calculate the error 'e' from the following equation: e = (A-B)/(A+B) (column 11, lines 13-20).

Claim 1 recites a radiation computed tomography apparatus comprising "a radiation source for emitting radiation toward a subject; an adjusting device for adjusting an emission extent of the radiation from said radiation source in response to

a control command; a detector array forming a two-dimensional radiation detection surface comprised of a plurality of radiation detectors, for detecting the radiation on said radiation detection surface; a reconstructing device for calculating and reconstructing tomographic image data for a tomographic image of said subject based on projection data of said subject by the radiation acquired by said detector array; and a control device for calculating an irradiated region in said radiation detection surface required for acquiring said projection data for use in reconstruction of a certain portion of said tomographic image data based on parameters relating to reconstruction of said tomographic image data by said reconstructing device, and outputting a control command to said adjusting device for emitting the radiation to impinge upon said irradiated region, wherein said control device configured to calculate the irradiation region by selecting a subset from a set of rows of said radiation detectors, and said control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan."
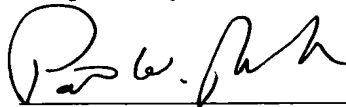
Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest a radiation computed tomography apparatus as recited in Claim 1. Specifically, Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest the control device configured to calculate the irradiation region by selecting a subset from a set of rows of the radiation detectors, and the control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. Rather, Fujishige et al. describe an error detecting section that detects an impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels of two rows in a detector array. The error detection is performed by using X-ray detected signals A and B of an X-ray beam from the reference channels of the two rows to calculate the error 'e' from an equation, $e = (A-B)/(A+B)$. A description of detection of an impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels of two rows in a detector array does not teach a selection of the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. Accordingly, Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest the control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. For the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Fujishige et al.

Claims 2-8 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-8 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claims 2-8 likewise is patentable over Fujishige et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-8 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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